organisations for organising celebrations of centenaroes/anniversaries of eminent personalities. Each request for financial assistance is examined on merits.

**Biomedical study on the burns caused by Fire Works**

3505 SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that studies done at the Centre for Biomedical Engineering for the past five years have shown that thousands of people become disabled due to burns caused by fire-works on Diwali; and

(b) what is the total number of patients admitted and treated for burns in Government hospitals in the country on Diwali this year?

THE MINISER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No authentic data regarding the total number of patients admitted and treated for burns in Government hospitals in the country on Diwali is available with the Government

**Price control of the Anaemic Medicines**

3506 SHRIMATI SUDHA' VIJAY JOSHI Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 79 per cent of the population is suffering from anaemic deficiency;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 40 per cent of pregnant women have deficiency anaemia; 'and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government on Kelkar Committee's recommendations for decontrol of prices of ferrous salts and other drugs going into the productions of Iron preparations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Studies conducted by National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad of the I C M R have shown that prevalence of anaemia varies anywhere between 40—80 per cent depending on the age group About 60 per cent of pregnant women have anaemia

(c) Government have accepted the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee for the decontrol of prices of ferrous salts

**Service benefits to the Ex-AMC doctors in the C.H.S**

3507 DR RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Army Medical Corps doctors are eligible to enter the Central Health Services including Central Government Health Scheme only after passing a combined Health Services Examination conducted by UPSC and not otherwise by way of deputation or transfer;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor, especially when these doctors enter the Army Medical Corps only after competing in a proper written test and being selected through interviews duly constituted central and comparable board; and

(c) whether the doctors who enter Central Health Services after a short service commission or a long term commission in Army Medical Corps are given benefit of service in their respective cadre by way of seniority or fixation of pay at definite stage in the scale by giving them the number of annual increment that he has already earned in his present service if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) In accordance with the Central Health Service Rules

1982 appointment to the Medical Officers' grade of the service is made on the basis of Combined Medical Services Examination held by the UPSC. The Army Medical Corps doctors can also compete, if eligible. The CHS Rules, 1982 also provide, *inter-alia* for recruitment to the service by transfer on deputation of suitable officers holding analogous posts under the Ministry of Defence also

(c) The *inter-se* seniority of the selected candidates is determined in accordance with the merit list prepared by the UPSC. The pay of Short Service Commission and Emergency Commissioned Officers, on their employment to a civil post, is fixed after granting them advance increment equal to the completed years of service rendered by them in armed forces provided the pay so fixed does not exceed the basic pay inclusive of deferred pay (but excluding other emoluments) drawn by them in the armed forces.

**Benefit to the Ex-Servicemen in the CGHS.**

3508. DR RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ex-army medical corps officers entering CGHS and other Central Health Services are given any benefit of their service in army by way of providing them a suitable higher start in their respective scales allowing them the number of annual increments equal to the number of years of service in the Army Medical Corps; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is not the policy of Government to provide adequate benefits to ex-army medical corps personnel in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Released Emergency Commissioned and Short Service Commissioned officers of the Army Medical Corps on their appointment to a civil post, are given benefit of their army service by way of granting them advance increments equal to the completed years of service rendered them in armed forces on a basic pay (inclusive of deferred pay, but excluding other emoluments) provided the pay so fixed does not exceed the last pay drawn by them in the armed forces.

**Sale of vaccine with negligible potency**

3509 SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Polio Vaccine, Measles Vaccine, Mum Vaccine of negligible potency are being sold:

(b) whether any samples were drawn during the last two years for testing these vaccines, and

(c) if so, the number of samples drawn and how many were found of sub-standard quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The manufacture, sale and distributions of drugs is controlled by the State Drugs Control Authorities. Available information with Government on number of samples of Polio Vaccine, Measles Vaccine and Mum Vaccine tested for the last two years is given below:—

| Years | Name of Vaccine | No. of Samples tested | No of Samples found sub-standard |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1985-86 | Polio Vaccine | 13 | 7 |
| | Measles Vaccine | Nil | Nil |
| | Mum Vaccine | Nil | Nil |
| 1986-87 | Polio Vaccine | 20 | 12 |
| | Meales Vaccine | Nil | Nil |
| | Mum Vaccine | Nil | Nil |